Rural households access to power

2461. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recent survey only 44 per cent of rural households in the country have access to power;

(b) whether the survey has suggested certain strategies with related infrastructural back-up to cover the additional households in the next five years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Census of India 2001, 43.52% rural households are electrified.

(b) and (c) The survey has not suggested any strategy relating to electrification of households. However, Government of India has launched a new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) — Scheme for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification" in April 2005, for providing access to electricity to all the balance rural households in five years.

The salient features of the scheme have been brought out in the relevant OM No.44/19/2004-D(RE) dated 18.3.2005 of Ministry of Power, Government of India, a copy of which is enclosed at Annexure (*See* Appendix 205, Annexure No. 10)

Renovation of hydel scheme in Kerala

2462. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expenditure of Rs. 374.50 crores incurred by the Kerala State Electricity Board for the renovation of hydel scheme at Pallivasal Sengulam and Pannias was rendered wasteful; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.